

### ***EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT***

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows:

#### **IN THE CLAIMS**

Claim 30, line 17, the word "charged" has been deleted.

Claims "42-58 (Cancelled)" has been deleted and replaced with -- **41-58** (Cancelled) --.

### ***REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE***

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claims **30, 32-34, 37-40 and 59-64** are allowable over the prior art of record because the prior art does not teach or suggest a method of carrying out an electrooxidation reaction which comprises subjecting a reagent to an electrooxidation wherein said reagent comprises an organic compound salt of general formula (I)



as presently claimed, esp. wherein X is a cationic group. The prior art does not contain any language that teaches or suggests the above. *Lindsey, Jr.* teaches that the group X

is an anionic group and Y is a cationic counter-ion. Therefore, a person skilled in the art would not have been motivated to adopt the above conditions, and a *prima facie* case of obviousness cannot be established.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to EDNA WONG whose telephone number is (571) 272-1349. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 7:30 am to 4:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nam Nguyen can be reached on (571) 272-1342. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a

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USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Edna Wong/  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 1795

EW  
March 26, 2010